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Tim Foist

Verde Valley loses ‘definition of a friend’

Former Mingus Union Superintendent Tim Foist passes away Wednesday ‘doing what he loved’

By BILL HELM
Staff Reporter

COTTONWOOD – Some people’s lives shine so brightly that even after they’re gone, there’s still light.

A sentiment he read once on a sympathy card is how former Mingus Union Board President John Tavasci Jr. talked of Tim Foist, his friend and former colleague who passed away Wednesday on his Kansas farm.

Said Tavasci, who was part of the school board that brought Foist to the Verde Valley, the former Mingus Union superintendent “died of a heart attack in the field, checking on his cows.”

SEE FOIST PAGE 5

“

He was a man of action with a great sense of humor,”

Anita Glazar

Man fatally shot by Forest Service officer was bloodied, naked



A white Toyota truck with Kansas plates is removed from the scene of a deadly shooting Jan. 5 in Oak Creek Canyon. (VVN/Vyto Starinkas)

New report on Oak Creek Canyon shooting is released

Staff Reports

OAK CREEK CANYON – A new report released this week states that the man who was shot and killed by a U.S. Forest Service Agent in Oak Creek Canyon on Jan. 5 was seen walking down State Route 89A bloodied and naked.

A Coconino County Sheriff’s Office investigation report identifies the officer as U.S. Forest Service Agent Krista Kuhns. The man who died was 51-year-old Tyler Miller, of Hutchinson, Kan.

CCSO Deputy Kyle Walter was requested to assist after it was transmitted across the radio that Kuhns was at a vehicle collision on SR 89A near the Briar Patch Inn.

According to the report, Walter heard Kuhns give a description of a bloodied man who was walking naked southbound on SR 89A.

“I could hear in her tone she was shaky and was speaking loudly, consistent with an intense situation,” he said in the report.

He then heard over the radio that shots were fired.

“During my response, dispatch was attempting to contact [Forest Service Agent] Kuhns without any result. It was also reported to DPS

SEE SHOOTING PAGE 5

Content versus context

School business managers to present mock-district to consolidation committee

By BILL HELM
Staff Reporter

COTTONWOOD – On Feb. 7, the business managers at both Mingus Union and Cottonwood-Oak Creek were asked to create a mockup of a consolidated district to present to members of the Advisory Committee for Consolidation.

Tuesday, the Advisory Committee for Consolidation will officially hear that presentation, as Mingus Union’s Lynn Leonard and Cottonwood-Oak Creek’s David Snyder will show in a PowerPoint what the “new” district could look like.

According to Snyder, both he and Leonard were tasked to “develop an organizational chart of a unified district and touch on a few other financial items that might impact unification.”



Former Mingus Union board president John Tavasci Jr. talks to members of the Advisory Committee for Consolidation on Feb. 6. (Photo by Bill Helm)

SEE CONSOLIDATION PAGE 5

Cottonwood-Oak Creek school board to discuss details of K-8 realignment

By BILL HELM
Staff Reporter

COTTONWOOD – Steve King says that Tuesday’s discussion of the Cottonwood-Oak Creek school board will be a matter of “what we know, what we don’t know and what we want to know.”

At 6 p.m. Feb. 20, the Cottonwood-Oak Creek School District’s governing board will listen as the district’s superintendent, as well as business manager David Snyder, provides additional information about the upcoming realignment of three schools into two K-8 schools.

On Feb. 6, the board voted 5-to-0 to support King’s – the district’s – plan to convert K-2 Dr Daniel Bright School and grades 6-8 Cottonwood Middle School into two K-8 schools, and to use the campus of Cottonwood Elementary School as an early childhood education center.

King outlined proposed details of the realignment before the board reached its decision, but both he and the board agreed to schedule a study session to go through those details.

SEE REALIGNMENT PAGE 5




Tuesday, Cottonwood-Oak Creek Superintendent Steve King will present additional information as it pertains to the district’s plan to realign three schools into K-12 schools. (Photo by Bill Helm)



SHERIFF’S OFFICE WARNS OF SECRET SHOPPER SURVEY SCAM

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